



## OFFICIAL STUDY GUIDE 2001 EDITION



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**COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM**

# Appendix B

## *What Your CLEP Score Means*

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Your score report shows the total scaled score for each exam you took. For the General Examinations, total scaled scores fall between 200 and 800, and for the Subject Examinations, between 20 and 80. For most Subject Examinations, you will also find a percentile rank on your score report. Percentile ranks indicate the percentage of exam-takers who scored at or below a given score.

For every CLEP exam, the number of right answers is counted and a fraction of the number of wrong answers is subtracted from that total. If your exam had questions with five answers, one-fourth of the number of wrong answers is subtracted. If your exam questions offered four choices, one-third of your wrong answers is subtracted. The resulting figure, a formula score, is converted to a CLEP scaled score. This scaled score provides an unchanging measure of performance regardless of which version of a particular exam you take or when you take it.

Exam scores are kept on file for 20 years. During this period, score reports may be sent to any institution, but only at the request of the candidate. A “Transcript Request Form” and instructions are included with each score report.

CLEP exams are developed and evaluated independently and are not linked to each other except by the Program’s common purpose, format, and method of reporting results. For this reason, direct comparisons should not be made from one CLEP exam to another. Nor are CLEP scores comparable to SAT scores or scores of other tests that use similar scales.

To see whether you attained a score sufficient to receive college credit, compare your score to the one shown in Table 1. The scores that appear in this table are the credit-granting scores recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE). *Each college, however, reserves the right to set its own credit-granting policy, which may differ from that of ACE.* If you haven’t already done so, contact your college as soon as possible to find out the score it requires to grant credit, the number of credit hours granted, and the course(s) that can be bypassed with a satisfactory score.

Tables 2 and 3 show, by subject, the percentile ranks for selected scores, as well as the mean scaled score and the standard deviation.

If you have a question about an exam item, your score report, or any other aspect of a CLEP exam that your exam center cannot answer, write to: CLEP, P.O. Box 6600, Princeton, NJ 08541-6600.

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## Table 1

*Recommended Credit-Granting Score and Number of Semester Hours of Credit*

Examination	ACE* Recommended Credit Granting Scores	No. of Semester Hours
	C	
<b>General</b>		
English Composition	420-500	6
Mathematics	420-500	6
Humanities	420-500	6
Natural Sciences	420-500	6
Social Sciences and History	420-500	6
<b>Composition and Literature</b>		
American Literature	46	6
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	47	6
English Literature	46	6
Freshman College Composition	44	6
<b>Foreign Languages</b>		
College French (Levels 1 and 2)		
Level 1 (two semesters)	39	6
Level 2 (four semesters)	45	12
College Level German Language (Levels 1 and 2)		
Level 1 (two semesters)	36	6
Level 2 (four semesters)	42	12
College Level Spanish Language (Levels 1 and 2)		
Level 1 (two semesters)	45	6
Level 2 (four semesters)	50	12
<b>Social Sciences and History</b>		
American Government	47	3
History of the United States I: Early Colonizations to 1877	47	3
History of the United States II: 1865 to the Present	46	3
Human Growth and Development	45	3
Introduction to Educational Psychology	47	3
Principles of Macroeconomics	44	3
Principles of Microeconomics	41	3
Introductory Psychology	47	3
Introductory Sociology	47	3
Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648	46	3
Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present	47	3
<b>Science and Mathematics</b>		
Calculus with Elementary Functions	41	6
College Algebra	46	3
College Algebra-Trigonometry	45	3
General Biology	46	6
General Chemistry	47	6
Trigonometry	50	3
<b>Business</b>		
Information Systems and Computer Applications	52	3
Principles of Management	46	3
Principles of Accounting	45	6
Introductory Business Law	51	3
Principles of Marketing	50	3

\*The American Council on Education, founded in 1918, is the major voice in American higher education and serves as the focus for discussion and decision-making on higher education issues of national importance. As such, it strives to ensure quality education on the nation's campuses. Within ACE, the Center for Adult Learning and Educational Credentials is the pioneer in evaluating extrainstitutional learning, assisting postsecondary education institutions in establishing policies and procedures for awarding credit based on ACE evaluations.

The American Council on Education recommends that the minimum score for awarding credit be the mean test score of students who earn a grade of C in the corresponding course.

**Table 2**  
*Percentile Ranks for the General Examinations (Total Scores)*

Examination	Date	No. of Students	Selected Scaled Scores														Mean	Standard Deviation
			800	750	700	650	600	550	500	450	400	350	300	250	200			
English Composition	1993	1,748	99	99	99	99	99	97	86	67	40	16	2	1	1	420	70	
Humanities	1978	757	99	99	99	98	93	85	70	49	27	9	1	1	1	460	85	
College Mathematics	1994	1,189	99	99	99	96	92	87	75	55	27	5	1	1	1	460	85	
Natural Sciences	1995	883	99	99	98	95	88	79	67	51	32	13	4	1	1	460	103	
Social Sciences and History	1994	894	99	99	99	99	97	89	72	48	21	6	1	1	1	430	82	

**NOTE 1:** The American Council on Education recommends that institutions set their minimum for receiving credit within the scaled score range of 420-500 when institutional data are not available.

**NOTE 2:** The standard deviation is a measure of the spread of scores above and below the mean.

# A P P E N D I X B

**Table 3**  
*Percentile Ranks for the Subject Examinations (Total Scores)*

Examination	Date	No. of Students	Selected Scaled Scores*															Mean	Standard Deviation
			80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45	40	35	30	25	20				
Composition and Literature																			
American Literature	1971	659	99	99	98	93	83	70	51	33	18	6	1	1	1	50	10		
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature	1996	911	99	99	98	93	83	69	49	33	17	7	2	1	1	50	10		
English Literature	1970-71	1,023	99	99	98	91	82	69	53	34	17	6	1	1	1	50	10		
Freshman College Composition	1993	1,112	99	99	99	92	82	68	50	33	18	7	1	1	1	50	10		
Foreign Languages																			
College French (Levels 1 and 2)																			
Level 1 (two semesters)	1990	2,293	99	99	99	97	95	90	82	65	42	19	5	1	1	50	10		
Level 2 (four semesters)	1990	655	99	99	98	92	83	69	51	31	15	6	1	1	1	50	10		
College Level German Language (Levels 1 and 2)																			
Level 1 (two semesters)	1994	748	99	99	99	99	97	92	84	74	57	32	7	1	1	41	9		
Level 2 (four semesters)	1994	726	99	99	98	95	87	78	66	50	30	11	2	1	1	50	11		
College Level Spanish Language (Levels 1 and 2)																			
Level 1 (two semesters)	1995	1,639	99	98	97	95	90	82	68	47* 19	2	1	1	1	1	47	9		
Level 2 (four semesters)	1995	936	99	95	87	78	66	52	36	20	6	1	1	1	1	52	9		
Social Sciences and History																			
American Government	1985	2,743	99	99	98	94	85	66	49	31	17	8	2	1	1	50	10		
History of the United States I: Early Colonizations to 1877	1996	1,432	99	99	96	91	84	71	54	36	18	3	1	1	1	50	10		
History of the United States II: 1865 to the Present	1995	747	99	98	96	92	84	73	56	33	16	4	1	1	1	50	10		
Human Growth and Development	1977	1,009	99	99	99	94	82	67	47	31	18	9	2	1	1	50	10		
Introduction to Educational Psychology	1990	1,957	99	99	98	93	83	69	52	32	17	7	2	1	1	50	10		
Principles of Macroeconomics	1993	1,084	99	99	98	96	90	83	71	53	33	12	2	1	1	50	10		
Principles of Microeconomics	1993	1,104	99	99	99	98	93	87	75	60	42	24	8	2	1	50	10		
Introductory Psychology	1992	1,798	99	99	96	91	84	71	54	36	16	4	1	1	1	50	10		
Introductory Sociology	1974	3,235	99	99	99	94	83	67	49	31	17	8	3	1	1	50	10		
Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648	1980	793	99	99	98	92	83	70	51	34	18	6	1	1	1	50	10		
Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present	1980	703	99	98	94	90	84	74	59	38	14	1	1	1	1	50	10		
Science and Mathematics																			
Calculus with Elementary Functions	1994	1,489	99	99	99	97	93	85	76	60	40	21	6	1	1	44	10		
College Algebra	1993	1,042	99	99	99	95	86	75	61	43	27	12	3	1	1	50	10		
College Algebra-Trigonometry	1979	1,116	99	99	98	91	80	65	49	33	21	12	6	1	1	50	11		
General Biology	1977	2,207	99	99	97	92	82	69	52	36	18	4	1	1	1	50	10		
General Chemistry	1978	3,016	99	99	97	92	84	69	52	33	17	6	1	1	1	50	10		
Trigonometry	1979	1,517	99	99	94	85	71	53	36	22	10	4	1	1	1	54	10		
Business																			
Information Systems and Computer Applications	1990	1,990	99	99	96	91	83	70	55	35	17	3	1	1	1	50	10		
Principles of Management	1993	1,207	99	99	99	95	85	72	54	35	20	11	6	2	1	50	10		
Principles of Accounting	1995	1,102	99	99	97	92	83	71	52	33	17	5	2	1	1	50	10		
Introductory Business Law	1970	1,116	99	99	98	92	78	62	47	29	16	6	2	1	1	50	10		
Principles of Marketing	1992	1,248	99	99	99	93	83	68	47	32	18	7	2	1	1	50	10		

\*For example, a Level I scaled score of 45 on the College Level Spanish Language exam would give you a percentile rank of 47. That means you performed the same as or better than 47% of the students in the sample.